AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Abstract is amended as follows:

A family of novel imino amide catalyst precursors and catalysts useful for the polymerization of olefins, such as ethylene, higher alpha-olefins, dienes, and mixtures thereof. The present invention provides a catalyst precursor and catalyst system comprising the precursor, an embodiment of the precursor is selected from the following structures:

$$R-X \longrightarrow Y-R'$$

$$L_{n} \longrightarrow Z_{n}ML_{n}$$

$$R-X \longrightarrow Y-R'$$

$$Z_{n}ML_{n} \longrightarrow Z_{m}ML_{n-1}$$

wherein T is a bridging group; M is selected from Groups 3 to 7 atoms, and the Lanthanide series of atoms the Periodic Table of the Elements; Z is a coordination ligand; each L is a monovalent, bivalent, or trivalent anionic ligand; X and Y are each independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur, and phosphorus; R is a non-bulky substituent that has relatively low steric hindrance with respect to X; and R' is a bulky substituent that is sterically hindering with respect to Y.